

**BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR  
RECONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN VALUES IN  
NEW RULE IV AND APPROVAL OF  
NOTICE OF ADOPTION**

**Agenda Item Summary**

The Department requests that the Board reconsider the values it selected for sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) for the Powder River and the values it selected for electrical conductivity (EC) for Rosebud Creek during the non-irrigation season. The Board may select any value that is within the range of values contained in MAR Notice No. 17-187.

**List of Affected Rules**

New Rule IV

**Affected Parties Summary**

The proposed reconsideration of portions of New Rule IV could affect parties that have or will have surface water discharges that may affect the EC or SAR of waters in Powder River or Rosebud Creek.

**Background**

At its meeting on March 28th, the Board voted on various values to be adopted as standards for EC and SAR on the Tongue River, Powder River, Little Powder River, Rosebud Creek, and tributaries. The Board directed the Department to prepare a Notice of Adoption of rules and scheduled a meeting for April 11 for approval of the notice, the House Bill 521 analysis, and House Bill 311 analysis.

**Department's Recommendations**

The Department requests that the Board consider adopting an average monthly SAR standard of 5.0 and a maximum standard of 7.5 for the irrigation season on the Powder River and an average monthly standard of 6.5 and a maximum standard of 9.75 for the non-irrigation season. These changes would result in SAR standards for the Powder River that are consistent with the SAR standards adopted for the Little Powder River. The Department also requests the Board to adopt an average monthly EC standard of 1500  $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$  for Rosebud Creek during the non-irrigation season to be consistent with the EC standard adopted for the Tongue River during the non-irrigation season.

**Board Options**

1. Approve the Notice of Adoption reflecting the numeric values selected by the Board at its March 28 meeting; or
2. Reconsider the SAR values for the Powder River and the EC non-irrigation season values for Rosebud Creek and include any revisions in the Notice of Adoption; or
3. Approve the Notice of Adoption reflecting the values selected by the Board on March 28 and initiate rulemaking to amend the SAR standards for the Powder River and the EC non-irrigation season standards for Rosebud Creek.

**DEQ Recommendation**

The Department recommends Board Option No. 2.